

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DEPOSITING PAPER CHECKS FROM HOME

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A form of paper checks, and the apparatus and method to handle them,
5 allows deposit from home or office. The apparatus can be implemented with a
Personal Computer (PC) having a secure cryptography generator (SCG)
installed. The process of depositing paper checks begins by the payee
endorsing a check having printed thereon encryptions in at least selected
locations where information is written by a payer. The act of writing by the
10 payee obscuring some of the encryptions. The payee then scans the endorsed
check with a scanner to generate a digitized version of the check. The
computer extracts from the digitized version of the check a concatenated
branch number, account number and check number and a corresponding
digital signature. The payee then transmits the extracted information together
15 with the digitized version of the check for deposit. The checks a specially
designed to prevent fraud such alteration of the payee, amount and multiple
deposits. In addition to the encryptions imprinted on the check, a secret key
and a plurality of digital signatures are generated based on the concatenated
branch number, account number and check number.